

## Message Text

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ORIGIN INT-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 /022 R

DRAFTED BY INT:FWP:D.B.MCGRATH  
APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:D.KING  
INT:FW:E.U.C.BOHLER  
ARA/AND/V:T.W.SONANDRES (PHONE)  
ARA/USOAS:J.RUBEN  
ARA/USOAS:E.BETZIG  
OES/ENP/EN:C.SANDERS

-----260046Z 116171 /73

P 252220Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, VE

SUUJ: PROPOSED INTER-AMERICAN TRAINING CENTER FOR PARK  
AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION: KNICKMEYER

1. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING DRAFT TEXT TO MR.  
NICHOLAS DEWAR OF FUNDACION PARA LA DEFENSE DE LA NATURALEZA  
(FUDENA) OF PROPOSAL WHICH SUPPORTS ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAIN-  
ING CENTER PLANNED BY GOV-INTERIOR DEPARTMENT TEAM AUGUST,  
1976. (FYI: INTERIOR HAS ASSISTED VENEZUELAN AUTHORITIES  
IN DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH DEPARTMENT OF INTER-  
IOR HAS NOW REVIEWED, FOR SUBMISSION BY FUDENA TO WORLD  
WILDLIFE FUND (WWF). THIS SENT TO CARACAS BY INTERIOR VIA  
MAILS THREE WEEKS AGO BUT FAILED TO ARRIVE, HENCE NECESSARY  
TO ASK EMBASSY PROVIDE THIS EMERGENCY ASSIST. END FYI).  
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2. TEXT OF PROPOSAL:

A. OBJECTIVE. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO SET UP A CENTER FOR  
TRAINING OF WILDLIFE AND PARK MANAGERS SERVING LATIN AMERICA  
(LA), IN ORDER TO BUILD ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF SERVICES  
FOR MANAGING RENEWABLE RESOURCES IN LA COUNTRIES. AS A

MAJOR STEP TOWARD REALIZATION OF THIS OBJECTIVE, WWF IS

ASKED TO FURNISH SUPPORT FOR EXECUTIVE WHO WILL ORGANIZE  
CENTER AND SERVE AS FIRST DIRECTOR.

B. JUSTIFICATION.

1. OVER PAST TEN YEARS ATTITUDES TOWARD CONSERVATION IN  
LA HAVE DEVELOPED TO POINT WHERE COUNTRIES THEMSELVES ARE  
NOW MAKING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF RENEWABLE NATUR-  
AL RESOURCES PART OF THEIR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING.  
MOST LA COUNTRIES HAVE SET ASIDE NATURAL AREAS AS PARKS  
AND RESERVES. (MANY HAVE FORESTRY PROGRAMS, BUT THESE TKND  
TO CONCENTRATE ON PRODUCTION RATHER THAN CONSERVATION.)  
HOWEVER, WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, LA COUNTRIES ARE FRUSTRATED  
IN DEVELOPMENT OF CONSERVATION BY LACK OF TRAINED PARK AND  
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL. EVEN VENEZUELA DOES NOT  
HAVE CAREER SERVICE ADEQUATE TO OPERATE ITS NATURAL PARKS  
AND RESERVES. WITHOUT SUCH PERSONNEL, NATURE CONSERVATION  
IS IMPOSSIBLE. AMONG COUNTRIES WHICH LACK THESE SERVICES,  
SOME ARE CAPABLE EVENTUALLY OF BUILDING THEM FROM THEIR  
OWN RESOURCES BUT TO DO SO INDEPENDENTLY WILL TAKE A LONG  
TIME AND BE INEFFICIENT. MANY COUNTRIES WILL NOT BE ABLE  
TO BUILD OWN SERVICES INDEPENDENTLY. THIS PROJECT IS DE-  
SIGNATED TO HELP FILL THE BASIC NEED FOR COMPETENT PERSONNEL  
FOR ALL LA COUNTRIES WITHOUT WHICH CONSERVATION IN LA MAY  
NEVER BECOME A REALITY.

2. OBVIOUSLY, CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL PARKS  
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AND WILDLIFE RESERVES WILL BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO ALL  
PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED. THE PROPOSED CENTER  
WOULD ALSO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON NATURE CONSERVA-  
TION AND RESEARCH IN RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

3. PURPOSES OF CENTER ARE CONTRIBUTORY TO FUNDAMENTAL  
PURPOSES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF  
NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (IUCN).

C. BACKGROUND. THE PRESIDENT OF FUDENA VISITED WASHING-  
TON IN JUNE 1976 SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW INITIATIVES  
IN NATURE CONSERVATION IN LA. UPON LEARNING OF INTERIOR  
DEPARTMENT CONCERN OVER NEED FOR TRAINING OF PARK AND WILD-  
LIFE MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL IN LA, HE SUGGESTED THAT A GROUP  
OF EXPERTS FROM INTERIOR AND APPROPRIATE VENEZUELAN ORGANI-  
ZATIONS BE CONVENED TO PLAN A TRAINING PROGRAM. UNDER  
OFFICIAL SPONSORSHIP OF THEN MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, NOW  
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF VENEZUELA,  
ARNOLDO GABALDON, AN INTERIOR DEPARTMENT DELEGATION PARTIC-

IPATED IN A "STUDY GROUP" IN VENEZUELA DURING AUGUST 1976  
AT WHICH A PLAN FOR A TRAINING CENTER WAS PRODUCED (COPY  
OF PLAN ATTACHED.)

D. PLANS AND METHODS. PLAN IS FOR INSTITUTION WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO BUILD COMPETENT NATIONAL CAREER SERVICES FOR PARK AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN ORDER TO ENABLE DEVELOPING LA COUNTRIES FULFILL NEEDS IN NATURE CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. TRAINING CENTER WILL HAVE:

1. BASIC COURSE FOR THIRTY STUDENTS AT POST-HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL. STUDENTS SHOULD BE ALREADY EMPLOYED IN RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES IN NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. BASIC COURSE WILL BE ABOUT ONE ACADEMIC YEAR AND PROVIDE STUDENT WITH BASIC RANGER SKILLS AS WELL AS RELEVANT FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, AND GEOLOGY.

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2. CAMPUS IN MERIDA AND WILL BE SCHOOL WITHIN CIDIAT, AN OAS-SPONSORED INSTITUTE, WHICH SUPPORTED BY VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT.

3. ADVISORY BOARD INCLUDING MEMBERS OF CIDIAT BOARD AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM OAS AND OTHER LA COUNTRIES WITH VENEZUELAN CHAIRMAN.

4. FIELD SITES IN OTHER AREAS SELECTED FOR ECOSYSTEMIC AND FUNCTIONAL REPRESENTATIVENESS.

5. PERMANENT FACULTY OF ABOUT SIX INSTRUCTORS, INCLUDING DIRECTOR. WE HOPE THAT THESE INSTRUCTORS WILL, IN THE BEGINNING, BE MAINLY FINANCED BY OR SECONDED FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, BUT AS THE CENTER GROWS OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WILL TAKE OVER THE SCHOOL'S OPERATION AND SUPPORT TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE.

6. CAPITAL AND RECURRENT COSTS MANAGED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. CONSTRUCTION OF THE CENTER'S FACILITIES BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT.
- B. THE DIRECTOR'S AND INSTRUCTOR'S SALARIES ARE BEING SOUGHT FROM COMBINATION OF INTERIOR DEPARTMENT, WWF, INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, AND OTHER SOURCES.
- C. SCHOLARSHIPS FROM ESTABLISHED OAS AND UN AGENCY PROGRAMS WILL BE SOUGHT. THESE PROBABLY NOT SUFFICIENT FOR ALL STUDENTS BUT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO COVERAGE OPERATING

EXPENSES.

- D. VENEZUELA TO COVER COSTS OF MAINTENANCE OF THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND FACILITIES.

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- E. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BEING ASKED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT TO COVER BALANCE OF INSTRUCTIONAL AND OPERATIONAL COSTS FOR FIVE YEARS BEGINNING 1979 BUDGET YEAR.

7. ADVANCE AND SPECIAL COURSES FOR TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS.

8. ACCESS TO EXPERTISE AND FACILITIES OF UNIVERSITY OF THE ANDES, SCHOOL OF FORESTRY, AND CIDIAT.

E. IMPLEMENTATION.

1. MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT HAS FORMALLY PROPOSED TO INTERIOR THAT LATTER ASSIST IN FINDING AND FINANCING INSTRUCTORS (COPY OF HIS LETTER ATTACHED). INTERIOR PLANS FURNISH TWO TO THREE INSTRUCTORS ITSELF. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (SEE BELOW) IN THE U.S. HAVE BEEN APPROACHED AND HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CONTRIBUTING.

2. HOWEVER, MOST IMPORTANT NEED IS FOR A HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSON TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ORGANIZING THE SCHOOL, GETTING IT INTO OPERATION AND SERVING AS DIRECTOR. THIS PERSON WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE TO ADVISORY BOARD DESCRIBED ABOVE FOR ALL ASPECTS OF ORGANIZATION AND RUNNING OF SCHOOL INCLUDING OBTAINING PARTICIPATION OF OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. ESSENTIAL HE START WORK NO LATER THAN THE SUMMER OF 1977. DR. KENTON MILLER OF DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY SELECTED AS MOST APPROPRIATE PERSON TO FILL THIS POST. HE HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN POST BUT ACCEPTANCE DEPENDS ON ANALYSIS OF POSITION AND PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPING CENTER'S FULL POTENTIAL. DR. MILLER HAS OUTSTANDING QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDING MANY YEARS EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATION AND PRACTICE IN NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN EUROPE. (CURRICULUM VITAE ATTACHED)

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3. FUDENA AGREES FURNISH SALARY FOR VENEZUELAN COUNTER-PART TO WORK WITH DIRECTOR IN SETTING UP AND RUNNING CENTER. FUDENA PROPOSES THAT WWF FUND SALARY AND ALLOWANCES FOR DIRECTOR OF CENTER, THEREBY FORMING JOINT VENEZUELA-US WWF CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDAMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE TO CREATION AND FUTURE SUCCESS OF CENTER.

F. PARTICIPATION BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

1. TWO INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUREAUS, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, EACH PLAN FURNISH ONE INSTRUCTOR FOR PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WITH OPTION FOR RENEWAL DEPENDING ON SUCCESS OF CENTER IN GETTING ITSELF LAUNCHED.

SUPPORT FOR THIRD INSTRUCTOR FROM INTERIOR ALSO BEING SOUGHT.

2. SPONSORSHIP BY OAS UNDER CONVENTION FOR NATURE PROTECTION AND WILDLIFE PRESERVATION IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE WILL BE SOUGHT.

3. UNEP HAS INDICATED INTEREST IN PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR ONE INSTRUCTOR. FAO TO BE APPROACHED. COORDINATION TO BE ESTABLISHED WITH THE IUCN.

4. NATURE CONSERVANCY, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FISH, GAME AND CONSERVATION COMMISSIONERS HAVE INDICATED INTEREST PROVIDING SUPPORT.

G. BUDGET.

1. ABOUT DOLLARS 104,000 REQUIRED FOR TWO YEARS FOR CENTER'S ORGANIZER/DIRECTOR. ANNUAL BREAKDOWN AS FOLLOWS: SALARY DOLLARS 35,000; TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT OF HOUSEHOLD, DOLLARS 8,500; QUARTERS DOLLARS 5,000; REPRESENTATION AND UNCLASSIFIED

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OTHER EXPENSES DOLLARS 1,500; EDUCATION DOLLARS 2,000. TOTAL: DOLLARS 52,000. PAYMENT WOULD PROBABLY BEGIN AROUND JULY 1, 1977.

2. FOR OTHER FIVE INSTRUCTORS ESTIMATE ABOUT DOLLARS 400,000 FOR TWO YEARS.  
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## Message Attributes

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